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**Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks at People's Congress**  
*LD142315 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic*  
1845 GMT 13 Feb 88

[Speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, at a meeting of the Tripoli Municipality People's Congress on 13 February—live or recorded]

[Text] If you allow me, the remarks I shall make could reaffirm the people's authority from one stage to another. The remarks I shall make could reaffirm the people's authority. The General People's Congress will not add anything new, because it will have 13 documents representing the views of 13 municipal congresses, including this Tripoli Municipality Congress. For example, concerning the general body of agricultural production, the General People's Congress will have 13 pieces of paper with the views of 13 congresses, including your congress. It will look over these 13 pieces of paper and compare them, and then it will begin to try to convert them to 1 piece of paper which will bring together these municipal congresses on the general course of agricultural production.

All right, the general body of this municipal congress has got this piece of paper which is to be submitted to the General People's Congress from people's congresses which you (?represent)—basic people's congresses. These would have been formulated at the branch congress. Then, you meet here and bring the branches' draft resolutions. How many branches are there in the city of Tripoli?

[Unidentified voice] Eight branches.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] You are supposed to have come here with 8 pieces of paper with draft resolutions of 170 or 130 or 140 basic people's congresses. This means we have 140 basic people's congresses in the city of Tripoli in the eight branches. These eight branches receive the the basic people's congresses' resolutions and formulate them. The 140 congresses' papers will be condensed into 8 papers. You would bring these eight papers to the municipal congress, which will make them into one paper to be submitted to the General People's Congress.

This means we have 140 points of view of 140 basic people's congresses distributed over 8 branches; and these 8 branches transform the 140 views of the basic people's congresses into 8 papers. Consequently, at this congress you will transform these 8 papers into 1 paper to be submitted to the General People's Congress, so that there are 13 papers to be submitted to the General People's Congress expressing the views of basic people's congresses throughout the Jamahiriya on the general course of agricultural production. We took this as an example. [Words indistinct] the general body of agricultural production. This is the agenda of the basic people's congresses throughout the Jamahiriya.

There is a report on the general subject of agricultural production which is brought to us at the basic people's congresses and we studied it at 1,000 or more congresses.

Every congress expresses its views. It is submitted to 140 basic people's congresses in the city of Tripoli, which express their views on the report which was submitted to us in the agenda. We then collated them at the branches. Later—now—we collate them at the municipal congress, so that we will be able to submit the views to the general people's congress to be compared with those of the other municipal congresses; and one resolution will be drawn up from them by the General People's Congress regarding agricultural production. It will represent the views of basic people's congresses as a whole.

All right, let us see what 140 congresses in Tripoli have said about the general body of agricultural production. What did the Tripoli congresses say in their debates? Here are examples: We had one congress, I mean two congresses on Friday and the day after, and they said that there is need in the future to submit reports on joint companies in order to assess their usefulness. This point will be included in the paper concerning the general agricultural production representing the views of basic people's congresses in all of Tripoli.

When the paper goes to the General People's Congress, they will say that Tripoli congresses, via their municipal congress, have discussed this point, the need to submit reports on joint agricultural companies, which are not mentioned in the memo we have received. There is nothing on the usefulness of joint companies. We have a Romanian company, a Polish company, some other company. How have we benefited from these joint companies? There does not seem to be anything on them in this memo. Two congresses have told us to pay attention to this point. This will go to the General People's Congress; the General People's Congress will say: Let us look at the views of other municipalities. What did the congresses say regarding general agricultural production? If we look we may find that other congresses have mentioned this point—maybe one, two or three. It does not matter how few. There is no minority in people's authority. The General People's Congress will begin to derive one point from the 13 papers; even if it has not been mentioned by other congresses, but it has been mentioned by [word indistinct] congress which had it from two congresses only.

[Words indistinct] the General People's Congress that general agricultural production is required to submit reports in the future on the usefulness of joint companies between the Jamahiriya and other countries, because it has disregarded them, ignored them or it is trying to delude us because that operation has failed and does not want to put it before us. The important thing is that we have looked into this memorandum and did not find anything useful in the work of joint foreign companies. Thus, the General People's Congress will begin to take every point, and tackle another point. In other words, a central model. The accountability is not done at the basic congress nor the municipal congress. The General People's Congress will assess on the basis of what has been said by the people's congresses and collated by the branches and municipal congresses.

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We may have another point, that the agricultural machinery company has not attained its required objective, and the same goes for the excavation company. Say two, three, five or six; six congresses in the Tripoli municipality. Tripoli has around 140 congresses, but when only 2 congresses speak on an important point, it is not thrown out but submitted to the General People's Congress. [Words indistinct] there was 'Uqtah and Suq al-Jum'ah, only two congresses, and maybe there are more than 1000 congresses in the Jamahiriya. Two congresses may have asked: What is the use of our work with joint foreign companies in the field of agriculture? We did not dismiss this. The ratio of two congresses to how many congresses in the Jamahiriya? [unidentified voices volunteering answers].

Well, hundreds, maybe 700, nearly 1,000 congresses in the Jamahiriya. Two congresses expressed their views and it was not dismissed. It was forwarded from the basic people's congress to the branch congress, to the municipal congress and then to the General People's Congress. This point has not been dismissed as it has reached here. It cannot be dismissed unless it was dismissed by the basic people's congress during its debate; it may have been dismissed because it was not found to be useful. However, as long as it is adopted by the basic people's congress—even one congress only—it will find its way to the General People's Congress.

We may have another point concerning general agricultural production; there are affiliated companies—the agricultural machinery company and the wood carving company. We have six congresses in Tripoli which say that these two companies have not performed their duties properly and have been negligent. Whatever is drafted by the basic people's congresses and reaches the branch, drafted by the branch and reaches the municipal congress; this point which concerns excavation; it will be submitted to the General People's Congress.

The General People's Congress will see the 13 papers of the municipal congresses. Is there anything in them which indicates negligence by the carving and furniture company or not? It finds mention in other congresses' or not. If it is mentioned in other congresses' papers, it will collate them all and make one point out of them. Thirteen papers at the General People's Congress become one paper concerning general agricultural production. However, where has it come from? It has come from the 13 papers of the 13 municipal congresses, from branch congresses and originally from the basic people's congresses. Even if all the other congresses did not say that the carving and furniture company has been negligent, as long as there are congresses in Tripoli which mention these companies [plural as heard], it will be entered in the paper and submitted to the General People's Congress.

However, this is not enough. When it comes to the General People's Congress, the basic people's congress concerned will be called and told: You are one of the

congresses which have said that the carving company has not done its duty; the agricultural machinery company. Your congress has adopted this resolution. Explain to us: What is the standpoint on which you based your judgement? This is the reason for its presence at the General People's Congress. The secretary of the basic people's congress stands up and says that we in the basic people's congress discussed this company and found it to be negligent in the following way—until we are convinced and say that this point is valid.

Maybe the general agricultural production organization's representative, who happens to be present at the General People's Congress, may refute this statement, or explain why the company had been negligent. On the basis of these points of indictment or support, the positive and negative, the case against the general agricultural production organization would be built. Then, everything said about its policy and on the organization will be assessed at the General People's Congress, because the points came from basic people's congresses. This is an example.

There is another point concerning this; it is about the relative shortage in the number of trained personnel. Projects are enormous and those who are trained are few. This was noted by seven congresses in Tripoli. Papers exactly like this have from [words indistinct] municipal congresses. You can see that these other congresses have noted that there are enormous projects and the number of those trained is small. Indeed, in their memorandum the seven congresses in Tripoli have said that the body which is responsible for work has put itself forward and said we have trained 200—or I do not know how many. Seventy people will be trained from 1987 till 1989. This means during all these years they will train 70 people. In the past they had 70 who were trained abroad and 600 receiving training at home. The seven congresses in Tripoli found that the report submitted on the number of those trained was small in comparison with the size of the large projects in the country. If it is established that the number is small, the body's policy has to be changed. Training has to be expanded. This change will occur in the policy of the general agricultural production organization on the basis of a decision and order of the basic people's congresses which reviewed the state of this body.

The General People's Congress will take your paper concerning trained personnel, and will see whether other municipal congresses have anything to say about trained personnel. It will find out how many other municipal congresses have brought the basic people's congresses' remarks—formulated by the branches, sent to the municipal congress and submitted to the General People's Congress—which are specific to training. This means, that, indeed, this body has been negligent in training a sufficient number of people suitable to the size of the large projects. Consequently, 13 papers will be collated at the General People's Congress; one of the items would say that the body is delegated by the people to increase the number of trained personnel. In this case

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the body would say as long as you are charging me to do this, give me 1 million dinars in this year's budget so that we can send people on courses abroad. Those who are training us abroad are not doing it for charity, they charge us for it. Or we open training centers at home and bring in experts from abroad.

Training costs money; 3,000 or 5,000 [unit unspecified] for each trainee. Where do the 3,000 or 5,000 come from? Do we take it from employees, from lazy people, from do-nothings? Bring me a force to be trained and give me the cost. The issue is defending yourself. You represent a program and you will have to say that this program costs so much. Then, the congresses' views will have to be made. This is an example of a central structure.

This means that we cannot decide at the Tripoli Municipal Congress that the general agricultural production body has to be abolished or nullified. We have to see what all the congresses have to say on the question of abolition. Maybe there will be support for abolishing it, or the body may defend itself and the situation would change; it will be present at the General People's Congress and the General People's Congress will confront it with the basic people's congresses' statements. The fate of this general body, which is not in Tripoli's hands, will be decided before the General People's Congress on the basis of what has been said by your congresses in Tripoli and the congresses of Kufrah, Tobruk, Sabha, and so on.

Therefore, [words indistinct] the General People's Congress, the Tripoli Municipality Congress must be clear. We cannot add anything to what has been said by the basic congresses in Tripoli. We cannot demand here that this body be abolished, change its policy, say that its secretary is good or not good. We take the resolutions of the basic people's congresses of the city of Tripoli, which have been formulated at the branches; and from the branches they have come to us here so that we can formulate them in one paper to be submitted to the General People's Congress, stressing what has been said by the basic people's congresses regarding the general body of agricultural production. Later it will be held accountable before the General People's Congress.

This is an example we have now been furnished with—a central body. The same applies to industry, mining, health, treasury, and so on. These are general things; they are central, responsible to the Libyan people as a whole.

We come to the authorities responsible to the basic people's congresses in Tripoli municipality only. We take the example of agriculture. Basic people's congresses in Tripoli municipality were convened and discussed agriculture and the agricultural committee in this municipality and voiced its views on this. Let us look at their views and what happens after it has expressed its views and why we have come to this place today.

We have here congresses which have expressed their satisfaction at the work of the People's Committee of Land Reclamation and Reform. This is a positive point. Other congresses came and said that the People's Committee of Agriculture in Tripoli municipality have continued to grant building permits at the expense of agricultural land. This committee has failed to specify agricultural produce for every farmer, allotting self-sufficiency farms to those who do not deserve them. That is, distributing self-sufficiency farms in Tripoli Municipality to those who do not deserve them, giving as an example a cross section of those who do not deserve these farms but have gotten them. The committee did not succeed in the agricultural guidance program, attention to livestock and other points. I do not mean actual points. These are examples which may or may not exist, but we benefit from them without taking into account any resolutions. We benefit from them as examples.

The People's Committee of Agriculture has nothing to do with the General People's Congress; its fate is decided by the municipal congress. The People's Committee of Tripoli has its fate decided at the municipal congress. But how is it decided? There is nothing but chanting and raising banners, and "down with this." Sitting on chairs, crossing their legs and smoking, and deciding the fate of anything they want. The will is ours and we are not afraid of anything. When you raise your voice and shout "down, down," it means that there is competition from another side; someone says "long live" and the other says "down, down." Under these circumstances, you are forced to raise your voice and bring the largest number of banners, and tear down other people's banners.

As long as the people are not facing contenders and all the people have reached power and the struggle for power has finally ended, we can sit down calmly, cross our legs and decide anything we want—war, peace, grave or simple decisions—calmly. Here, its fate will be decided calmly. We bring this paper. This is a model for a participant that is not central; it is local and responsible to the municipality—namely the People's Committee of Agriculture in the Tripoli municipality.

At this congress we will review what has been said by the basic congresses of the Tripoli municipality—around 140 congresses. Some congresses have said the committee is excellent and has done this, that and the other. Other congresses of the Tripoli municipality said this committee has failed to this, that and the other. From here analysis begins and comparison between the good and bad sides, between negative and positive points. The committee is there defending itself. Although, the committee's members [incomplete sentence as heard]. Is there not a specialist member in every basic people's congress, in agriculture, for example? Maybe he is finished. Maybe he will be dismissed. Maybe they support him. Now he knows his position. The agriculture member of the basic people's congress, in every basic people's congress—in every basic people's congress in the Tripoli

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municipality—must be finished now, because you must have made them accountable at the basic people's congresses and judged against, or for, them.

It is not necessary that there should be retention or dismissal only. There are other things. Modification of the agricultural policy and giving it a new direction. It is not necessary to put people in the position of failure or success only. There are other things. Alright, we have not been satisfied with something but we are providing these guidelines so that we would be satisfied with you next year—do this and that. He may say: Provide me with such and such resources, and in this way resources and capabilities will be directed until the demands of the masses will be realized. [words indistinct] Maybe this member for agriculture may appear as a failure at their congress and the congress will judge him as a failure and finish him. He would be finished. He should have been finished at your congresses before reaching the municipal stage. Maybe someone is good and the congress is satisfied with him. He will be supported. He is an excellent member and let him continue.

In our move from the basic to the branches and to the municipal congress, here, the fate of the People's Committee of Agriculture in Tripoli will be decided. We make comparisons between the good and bad. The committee is there and it can defend itself, reply and explain the factors making it do this. Did it actually give agricultural land for building? Maybe the committee would say: What agricultural land? Let us ask who said this? It was said by 's' congress. Come out, 's' congress, and tell me where the agricultural land is that I have given permission for building on. Maybe this 's' congress has no proof and the congress would say: That is it. Bring us a plan which shows agricultural plots which have been misused and turned into building land. Give us details of the person who gave permission to build on agricultural land. Was it a result of nepotism? Is he the relative of someone in agriculture? Has he given money to the agriculture group; did he intimidate them? Who is he? This is how debate must begin.

Maybe this congress, whose secretary is present here, says: We have only heard of this. Alright, next time be sure. At the next session or urgent session, confirm what you have heard. Do not just say: We have heard.

Take a plan of the city of Tripoli showing agricultural land and land for construction. How was the agricultural land turned into land for construction? Let us suppose this actually happened. A congress map shows agricultural land which was turned into land for construction. Prove it. The agricultural committee will say: We have turned this plot from agricultural land into construction land for such and such reasons. We might be convinced, and we might say that this is not convincing, and it is aggression against agricultural land, an assassination of the agricultural land: Why did you do that? We are not convinced by your reasons claiming that Mr so-and-so needed this for building. We have found another plot for

construction and he did not use it. Why did he take the agricultural land? There must be other reasons. That will be recorded; you are in the drafting committee registering the positive and the negative aspects, and a decisive battle will ensue, not for the purpose of causing the downfall of this or that, but with the aim of asserting the people's authority, of attaining benefit for the people.

What is beneficial for us, we keep; what is not, we change. That does not mean that when—let's say Jamal—has failed in agriculture he is a failure. He is a revolutionary, a member of a revolutionary committee, and part of a revolutionary force. He might fail in agriculture but he could succeed in education, in mobilization activity, or any other activity. When he fails in agriculture it does not mean he is a failure; he could be useful. He could say: I have failed in agriculture but keep me as a member of the revolutionary committee, to which I belong. Sometimes the committee itself admits it has failed in agriculture, because it is a difficult matter; it gives reasons and expresses thanks.

It is not necessary for you to condemn everyone who fails. No, only if he falls because of nepotism or bribery. Anyone who falls for these reasons, because he is negligent, playing cards at night, and not planning for his work, not coming to work, finding chances to go abroad. If we send him abroad for 2 days, he stays 20, stops over in another country and sends for his family. Or he says: I was examined and found to be ill. We did not send him for a medical checkup; we sent him to attend so-and-so conference. He says that doctors have checked him and advised him to go to Switzerland. This is all wrong. This is playing. When we want to send a person to Switzerland, we do so; and when we send a person to attend a conference, or a funeral, he does just that. That is how a person will fall.

But it could happen that someone will travel and actually fall sick. While at the conference he feels it and the doctor sees him and advises him to stay 10 days in the hospital for an appendectomy. This is possible; if it is an emergency we may be convinced. But you should never entertain the idea of exploiting us, assuming that those people have sent me abroad; why not exploit them and do my checkup and cover all the expenses. When we discover such practices we stop them. This is an example of a type of situation that can be decided at this level.

When we record agricultural developments, we enter the positive and negative details. Now we come to the public utilities. The same applies. We come to public sports, to social security, and to justice. These are all local issues that we can finalize here, retain or amend their policies here. They have no relation to the General People's Congress. Their papers come from the basic people's congresses to the branch congresses, and finally to the municipal congresses; they end here. Agricultural policy, justice, public sports, social security, and utilities have their final stage at the municipal congress.

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And those responsible for them are accountable ultimately at the same level; we keep them, transfer them, change them give them a chance, educate them, give them directives, give them resources and so on and so forth.

We come to the rest of the committee, the committee of Tripoli municipality. It dispenses justice which is a local responsibility; however, its other half is a member in a General People's Committee. Here we have industry, education, health and economy, etc. How do we tackle them? This is a group accountable to us and we have decided their fate at the basic people's congress level, where we have decided the fate of the executive member who represents the sector. And last, at the municipality level, we have decided the fate of the people's committees which are at the municipality level and not at the general level.

The rest of this committee, how do we tackle it? Never mind, this is the same as we have seen in the agricultural production; that is, the public establishment for agricultural production. We collect what the people's congresses of Tripoli municipality have said, we also collect from the branches. All to be gathered in this congress. Our task here is collection. We collect our viewpoint on industry from the basic people's congresses at Tripoli municipality, and we tell the Tripoli Municipality People's Committee for Industry our opinion on it. [words indistinct] What we have said applies to it. The issue of industry could have been decided at the basic people's congress at the time, the basic people's congresses.

At the level of Tripoli municipality there are local industries and central industries—industries that concern the municipality and other industries that concern the whole of the Jamahiriyah. You express your opinion in regard to both. In this case it is possible that the Industry Committee of Tripoli Municipality can be finished, itself, at this congress. However, we cannot decide here the fate of the secretary of the General Committee for Industry. We say all that relates to him and our opinion of him, not our opinion of him as a person but in industry, and we put it forward before the General People's Congress. Thirteen papers relating to industry will be put forward before the General People's Congress. The secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry is then faced by these 13 papers at the General People's Congress. These papers will be made into one paper and he will be asked his view regarding this paper which stems from 13 papers, originally from the basic people's congresses, stating what is favorable to him and what is against him. Then he begins to explain, reply, defend himself. He could be held responsible, or acquitted, his policy changed, provided with new directives, doomed. We could keep him, or we might be satisfied with him. His fate is decided in that manner.

The Industry Committee for Tripoli Municipality could also be finished at this congress. It is also possible that we might find that the General People's Committee for Industry has been finished at 13 municipal congresses

and only its secretary has attended the General People's Congress. And naturally if the industry committee was a failure at the municipality level and its members have fallen, then there will be no justification for keeping the secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry—only if it was proved before the General People's Congress that he was qualified and apt and innocent and that he was not like those who fell at the municipality level, then we keep him and form a committee for industry for him from the municipalities once again.

These are examples for quarters at the municipality level and the general level. At the general level there are two examples: the example of industry, which is a central case; the industry committee for Tripoli municipality can be brought down or we can keep it and keep him as a member. Even if industry was condemned at other places he will not fall because we at Tripoli municipality are satisfied with the industry committee. He will stay there even if the secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry was changed or the others were changed, but ours will stay because we are satisfied with him and no one has the right to change him. Because he was elected [tas'idahu] and put at the helm of this committee at this congress and he will only finish at this congress. Did you not put him as secretary of the committee? You have either elected one of your members or you have brought someone from outside and put him as the secretary of industry committee, therefore, he begins here, finishes here or stays here. And if he stays here he cannot fall at the General People's Congress. These remarks, naturally are not addressed to Tripoli congress; it is only meant to take Tripoli as an example for the case.

Another central example is the general establishment for agricultural production, which has no members here. However, we put our opinion regarding it and we collect our views at the municipality congresses so as to put them before the General People's Congress for accountability before the General People's Congress. How would it be questioned? According to what we have said about it, and what we say here comes from the basic people's congresses.

These three examples are cited to end the confusion and so that everyone would feel, whatever he said and wherever, regardless of the distance of the congress he uttered his remarks at, that no one can object to him or throw him in the street. All of these remarks and comments and opinions will come together at the drafting stage.

These are the observations which I wished to make, however, there is not enough time. There is not enough time for a pattern like the one I explained to you; the time for the municipality congress. Today it is being held and I do not know whether it is tomorrow or after tomorrow that it will end. I am of the opinion that municipality congresses take a longer time and the General People's Congress does not

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necessarily end on 2 March, the 2d of March being an old date. As from now March is Al-Mirrikh, however, the events which have occurred are listed according to [incomplete sentence as heard]

The General People's Congress is expected to start on 2 March. We should not press the municipality congresses. From now until 2 March we want no pressure placed on the municipality congresses. They are very important and the decisive battles should be waged at the municipality congresses; the questioning and accountability of all people's committees, be it at the municipality level or at the central level, all will be decided here at the municipality level. The struggle continues. [applause]

### Briefs

#### Meetings With DPRK Minister

Tripoli, 16 Feb (JANA)—The director general of the Treasury General Administration met this morning in Tripoli with Mr Chong Song-nam, DPRK minister of external economic affairs. The meeting reviewed bilateral relations and ways of consolidating them. The acting secretary of the administrative committee of the national oil institute also conferred with Chong Song-nam. This meeting focused on bilateral relations in the field of oil and ways of bolstering them. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1539 GMT 16 Feb 88 LD]

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## ARABIAN PENINSULA

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### Kuwait

#### **Iran, Israel Share Iraqi Military 'Information'**

*LD171029 Kuwait KUNA in English 0931 GMT  
 17 Feb 88*

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Feb (KUNA)—Iran and Israel are exchanging information on Iraq's military activities, particularly efforts to rebuild a nuclear reactor, a widely-read newspaper reported here Wednesday.

Reporting from Cyprus, AL-QABAS daily quoted "well-informed" diplomatic sources as stating that a meeting in this respect was recently held in Athens between Iranian and Israeli officials for the purpose.

The Iranians, according to the sources quoted by the paper, were eager to verify reports they received between late last year and early this year that Iraq has revived its nuclear activity under a cloud of secrecy.

Israeli planes had bombed Iraq's nuclear reactor of Ossirak, near Baghdad, during a raid June 7, 1981 and recently Baghdad announced it has destroyed an Israeli pilotless drone sent apparently for spying purposes.

The newspaper, citing the same sources, said that Tehran is pursuing the issue of Western hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups in its drive to acquire materials and equipment enabling it to join the nuclear club.

In this connection, AL-QABAS also cited Iran's unsuccessful bid with France to promote cooperation in the nuclear sphere by making use of the one billion-dollar loan offered by the late Shah of Iran to Paris to build a nuclear reactor in Iran.

### PDRY

#### **Minister Receives Message From Iranian Envoy**

*LD160920 Tehran IRNA in English 0852 GMT  
 16 Feb 88*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 16, IRNA—Iranian Ambassador to Aden Hasan Aminian met Minister of Labor and Civil Service of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, 'Abd al-Jabir Rashid 'Uthman Monday.

The message of Iranian Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Abdulqasem Sarhadizadeh on Iran's support for the Muslim Palestinians' uprising was delivered to the South Yemenese official.

'Abd al-Jabir Rashid thanked the Iranian envoy for the message and said his country like the Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to back Palestinian people by all means.

In another development the Iranian charge d'affaires to Helsinki submitted Sarhadizadeh's message on the same subject to the Finnish Minister of Labor Urpo Leppanen [name as received].

### Saudi Arabia

#### **Spokesman Says Israeli Aircraft Not Detected**

*LD161512 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1435 GMT  
 16 Feb 88*

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Feb (SPA)—A responsible source at the Saudi Royal Air Force commented on statements made by the Iraqi military spokesman. The Iraqi Armed Forces spokesman was replying to an Israeli denial that Iraqi defense systems tracked an Israeli target from the moment it left occupied Palestine, across a number of Arab states, including Saudi Arabia, until it entered Iraqi territory from the southeast corner. The Saudi spokesman declared that the Saudi early warning systems did not detect the aircraft in question, probably because it flew parallel to the northern borders of the Kingdom, outside the scope of the Saudi air control system.

#### **Editorial Views 'Cynical' U.S. Mideast Stance**

*PM161651 Jeddah SAUDI GAZETTE in English  
 12 Feb 88 p 4*

[Editorial: "Why the Veto"]

[Text] It was morally wrong for the United States to veto a UN Security Council resolution calling on Israel to respect the human rights of the Palestinians. All the deputy US envoy to the UN Herbert Okun could say on February 1 was that the resolution was "inopportune". It was the most cynical statement anyone could have made at a time when Israel was butchering innocent, unarmed civilians in Palestine.

A week later, Richard Murphy, US assistant secretary of state, was on a Mid-east political junket presumably to mend fences with the countries in the area. On his arrival in Tel Aviv on February 9, he said "Israel must do everything it can to open peace negotiations, and US help is indispensable", forgetting that the UN resolution the US had vetoed only a week ago also called for fresh UN peace efforts.

The United States has not realised that its ventriloquism is not even coming out as well as it should. It is the only one who can hear it, because it no longer conveys a message. The last message of the US was the veto it cast on February 1.

The PLO spokesman, Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman, expressed the situation in a nutshell when he said in a comment on the veto: "The position of the United States once again shows the deception and the impotence of its so-called peace efforts."

The US position on Israel has been consistently in full support of Israel's occupation of Palestine. It is quite unbelievable that other people should pretend that they did not know the US position.